

Application No.: 09/759,815
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contacting said biological sample with a pectinase;
filtering said sample;
washing said filter to remove unbound lectin;
eluting bound lectin with a chitin, a chitin degradation product or a chitin analogue; and
detecting said lectin wherein detection of said lectin indicates the presence of chitin in said biological sample.

A2 16. (Once Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said chitin degradation product is N-acetyl D-glucosamine.

A3 29. (Once Amended) A method of detecting chitinous material in a non-chitinous biological sample, said method comprising
in a solution at a pH ranging from about pH 7 to about pH 9 contacting said biological sample with a fluorescently labeled probe that is a lectin that binds chitin;
filtering said sample;
washing said filter to remove unbound lectin;
eluting bound lectin with a chitin, a chitin degradation product or a chitin analogue; and
detecting said lectin wherein detection of said lectin indicates the presence of chitin in said biological sample.

A4 43. (Once Amended) The method of claim 29, wherein said chitin degradation product is N-acetyl D-glucosamine.

REMARKS

1. Restriction

Applicants hereby elect the claims of Group I (claims 1-54), drawn to methods of detecting chitinous material.